



Hypnea musciformis

Red Algae

Threat Scores

1. Ecological Impact
 - Forms large monospecific mats; easily outcompetes native algae by reproducing rapidly; causes foul odors when large mats wash ashore
2. Invasive Potential
 - Has rapid growth rate, ability to epiphytize other algae and fragments easily
 - Drifting fragments reattach to other algae, especially Sargassum, which can become detached during storms and float long distances, carrying the epiphytic *H. musciformis* with it
 - Introduced for mariculture to Kane'ohe Bay in 1974 and spread to other islands by 1982
3. Geographic Extent
 - Locally pervasive
4. Management Difficulty
 - A recovery rate of 87% each month after harvest
 - Scientists must overcome this extremely rapid recovery rate



Geography and Habitat

1. Native: United States (Florida)
2. Introduced: Hawai'i, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, Florida (native transplant)
3. Habitats
 - Marine, coral reefs, intertidal zones, also free floating, subtidal zones

Invasion Pathways

1. Hull/Surface fouling
2. Natural spread
3. Stocking in open water - cultivation

Non-Native Locations

1. 43- Northern Gulf of Mexico
2. 64- Eastern Caribbean
3. 65- Greater Antilles
4. 70- Floridian
5. 152- Hawaiian Islands

Sources

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3. http://hawaii.edu/reefalgae/invasive_algae/rhodo/hypnea_musciformis.htm
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